

## FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

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Date June 15, 1967

O. C. POISSOT, interviewed at Natchez, Mississippi, was made aware of the identities of the interviewing Agents and voluntarily furnished the following information. No threats or promises were made to POISSOT to induce him to furnish any of this information. He advised he understood that any information furnished by him could be used in a court of law.

POISSOT stated he was born November 1, 1930, in Urania, Louisiana.

POISSOT stated that during the Summer of 1965, he was residing in Ferriday, Louisiana, and became acquainted with one DOUG NUGENT of the King Hotel in Ferriday.

Sometime during July, 1965, NUGENT asked POISSOT to join the Klan and as a result, on a Thursday night at Clayton, Louisiana, he was sworn into the Ferriday-Clayton Unit of the Original Knights of the Ku Klux Klan of Louisiana. At that time, he said JAMES SCARBOROUGH of Ferriday, Louisiana, was the Exalted Cyclops of this unit. After being sworn in, he attended meetings of this unit on a weekly basis until he left the Ferriday area and moved to San Antonio, Texas, about the third week in December, 1965. He stated that since December, 1965, he has had no Klan activity and has not associated with any known Klan members.

POISSOT advised that about three weeks to a month before FRANK MORRIS' shoeshop in Ferriday, Louisiana, burned, early 1965, FRANK DE LAUGHTER, Deputy Sheriff, Concordia Parish Sheriff's Office, Vidalia, Louisiana, and POISSOT were riding in DE LAUGHTER's patrol car. DE LAUGHTER told POISSOT that FRANK MORRIS, Negro owner of Frank's Shoeshop in Ferriday, had not been acting right and DE LAUGHTER

On 6/13/67 at Natchez, Mississippi File # Jackson 44-2044

SA FRANK B. WATTS and

SA WILLIAM E. DENT, JR./FBW:bgj

Date dictated 6/15/67

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ENCLOSURE

44-35496-271



said that he had had to give MORRIS a "lacing." POISSOT advised that by "lacing," he meant a good beating.

POISSOT stated that no other details of this beating or the reasons for it were related to him by DE LAUGHTER.

At a later date POISSOT stated that he was riding with DE LAUGHTER again and DE LAUGHTER said that he did not know what he was going to do about that "nigger" at the shoeshop, but was going to have to do something. DE LAUGHTER told POISSOT that he had taken some shoes to this shop for repair and that the "nigger" had refused to do the work without receiving money in advance from DE LAUGHTER. POISSOT stated that DE LAUGHTER inferred by this that he had taken shoes to this shop before for repairs and had obviously not paid for the repairs when he picked up the shoes.

POISSOT related that the very night after DE LAUGHTER made the above statements, the shoeshop of MORRIS was burned and MORRIS died in the fire.

POISSOT stated that DE LAUGHTER never made any additional statements concerning this incident after this and that he, POISSOT, learned of nothing else concerning this incident.

POISSOT was questioned in detail concerning the above and advised that due to the amount of time that has elapsed, he could not now recall additional specifics concerning the above facts.